We've been working to increase website postings this year as part of our goal to engage parents. During the 2014-15 school year, there were a total of 8 “innovative learning” entries during the entire year. This year we have already posted 8 in the first trimester! In the area of community engagement, during the fall 2014 trimester, we posted six times. This year, we have already posted 16 messages to date!

We also have increased our social media postings as well. See page 3 for more.

First Trimester Highlights

~SCEF funded 8 Educator Innovation Grants so far!
~Professional Growth/Evaluation Pilot: We wanted a minimum of 12, we have 30 teachers participating!
~Started a new SPED “buddy” soccer club at Heather
~SCSD hosted first Study Tour for Burlingame Teachers & Admins visit our PBL classrooms on November 4th
~Second Step curriculum is being implemented district-wide

PIE Nights

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<th>Special Education</th>
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<td>November 18</td>
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<td>Illuminate’ Gradebook for Parents</td>
<td>Math Night with SUHSD</td>
<td>Building Resilience and Preventing Drug and Alcohol Abuse</td>
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**District Goals Update**

Align Assessment and Curriculum resources to ensure progress monitoring of, and

1. **Tech Infused PBL, CCSS, WC…**

   Professional Development Topics during the first trimester included: Google Drive and Apps, Robotics, Words Their Way (New Spelling & Phonics), PBL, Handle With Care (Behavior De-Escalation and Restraint), Illuminate (new data system); Lucy Calkins Reading, specific subject Professional Learning Communities (PLC’s); Next Generation Science Standards, and Second Step.

   Physical /Health Wellness: Increased school-wide morning physical activity (e.g. LEAP preschool kids have “running group” before school starts, “BA in motion”, TL morning walking group); Expanded Motor Room (developmental PE) which is now happening for TK at all elementary sites). PE/Wellness Educators are analyzing PFT data and planning accordingly to meet student needs.

2. **P-3, 4-5, 6-8 Transition**

   **Pre-3 Highlights:** Inclusive school wide events are happening such as “buddy” programs. Also, cross-grade level conversations are happening (including some joint PBL units).

   Preschoolers now have their own Library time.

   Dialogue/Observations are beginning between preschool and TK/K teachers. P-3 transition conversations are happening at staff meetings and TK/Preschool joint PD is coming 12/9.

   Monthly Preschool Director/Elementary Admin meet to discuss transition needs & next steps. PTA conversations coming.

   **4-5 Highlights:** General education staffing is solidified and selection process for support staff is in the works. Arroyo teachers have monthly staff meetings and had retreat earlier this month. Co-planning with SMARTe for after school care is well underway; 4/5 teachers are piloting a variety of curriculum; PTA rep/Principal attend CMS PTA meetings.

   **6-8 Highlights:** Conversations around flexible schedules with staff are happening; piloting World Language at CMS and other personalized learning at both sites.
3. Personalized Learning

We’ve begun conversations on personalizing homework and some teachers have begun offering “menus” for students to select from.

At the 4/5 level, we have combined the iZone grant and the iHub grant to connect structures and software needed for personalized learning.

Personalized learning online pilots are rolling out district-wide. At the middle school:

- EdLeader 21 Performance Assessment – national pilot in Science 6th grade
- World Language pilot—6, 7, and 8th
- Redbird pilot in Math at 5th and 7th at both middle schools and ELA in 5th
- iReady pilot in ELA and Math at 5th
- Fuel Ed in 8th grade Geometry pilot
- iXLMath pilot in 6th
- TenMarks math support 5th-8th grade
- Newslea 7th grade (leveled news articles)

At the elementary sites we have a number of forms of personalized learning happening:

- Typing Club (3rd & 4th grade)
- Lexia (technology-based reading intervention)
- RAZ kids (leveled readers)
- Read Naturally (leveled reading for fluency)
- PebbleGo (non-fiction digital texts.)
- Reading A to Z (leveled readers)
- Front Row Math
- iReady pilot in ELA and Math 4th grade

4. Parent Engagement

Staff will be speaking at PTACC in December around “Educator Broadly Defined” and partnership for creating database of parent/community members.

Currently we have 600 followers on Twitter. Tracking of “likes” reveals a range from 50 to 3,006 on Facebook postings. As examples, counselors =1200, crossing guard =1300, PBL =1392, and the top ringer at 3,006 was CMS/Turf/landscaping piece!

BTSA, Interns & Student Teachers

Fall, 2015-2016:
- 2 BTSA at Year 1
- 4 BTSA at Year 2
- 3 SPED Interns
- 1 MFT Intern
- 5 Student Teachers
Wellness November Update

Goal I: Engage teachers, parents, students, and the community in promoting health-enhancing behaviors and better health through professional development, parent education, and health curriculum in the classroom.

- All K-4 students experience weekly lessons in PE through the Health Huddles curriculum which was developed with the support of Sequoia Healthcare District and Julie Engberg. This month’s topic has been all about Lunch: balanced lunches and healthy winter celebrations. Here is a photo of the Huddle about recycling your lunch packaging.
- We held our first parent education night with Health Connected discuss effective ways to hold conversations about sexual health and relationships with your kids. The event took place on November 18 and we had 55 parents in attendance!
- Mindy is planning the new Arroyo school health curriculum with principal Marie Crawford including the possibility of moving Puberty Talk to 5th grade instead of 6th grade.
- On January 12 we will hold our next parent education event: a book club to discuss the latest Challenge Success book: Overloaded and Underprepared to address the need for Stress Reduction. We are partnering with The Reading Bug to buy books and we are promoting it on school sites with old-fashioned book order forms. We are still looking for a moderator for the event.
- During the week of January 22-30, SCSD is partnering with the City of San Carlos to host the annual Week of the Family. The events really help build resilience, and we are excited to be part of things such as Hiking for Health 1/23, Family Activity Night 1/25, Cooking School 1/27, Family Day 1/30 and a new weeklong event called the Family Food Foto Contest families cook healthy

Goal II: Help enable schools to increase physical activity opportunities for students, develop wellness programs for teachers and staff, implement school wide promotional campaigns encouraging healthy diets, and ensure that students have appealing, healthy choices in foods and beverages offered outside of the school meals program.

- Motor room was expanded to include the special education preschool, TK and K at Heather Elementary.
- SCSD is partnering with SCEF to explore the idea of building sensory walls in special education facilities.
- SCSD purchased equipment to use in the elementary Physical Fitness Tests (PFT), including mats for curl ups, push up counters, and flexibility measurement tools.
- Mindy is working with 3 groups of students who have developed “Health Hero” projects as part of their classroom Project Based Learning work. These projects include a tasting station to get kids to try new fruits and vegetables at Heather Elementary, a Harvest Market to grow and sell culinary herbs and vegetables with the SMARTE and Special Education students at Tierra Linda, and an energy bar design and marketing club at Central Middle school.
- Several students in Ms. Marino’s 3rd grade class at Heather Elementary have created health presentations for their school and we plan to share these presentations with other 3rd graders in the district.
- SCSD started a staff yoga class that runs 5 days a week at various sites throughout the district.
- We have expanded our offering of structured coach-led games during lunch recess at the elementary schools so now there is a game or two at every site every day. Ms. Cindy Fondacabe now leads the extra session.
- Our Safe Routes to School Coordinator, Sarah Schwartz, implemented a new pedestrian flag crossing program at Heather Elementary to encourage parents to park at Highlands Park and walk up the hill along Melendy road to get a bit of exercise before school. This has also reduced traffic congestion in the school parking lot.
Goal VI: Design programs to assure positive changes are sustained
Sustaining change hinges on multiple, and interconnected factors. SCSD leverages our strategic plan, our personnel and our intelligent, committed community of volunteers to keep the good work going. Communication is key to this sustaining effort, and examples of how we communicate with our stakeholders is listed below.

1. Understand and spell out the impact of the change on people.
   - We use data and research to analyze the progress and to communicate that impact to the community. Examples from this quarter include the PFT presentation and the Health Connected workshop.

2. Build an emotional and rational case for change.
   - The newsletters that Sequoia Healthcare District supports really communicate that great mix of research and personal reflection. We had over 400 readers for the latest issue!

3. Ensure that the entire leadership team is a role model for the change.
   - Our PTA leaders and administrators serve as tremendous role models who, this quarter alone, have written school newsletters about reducing stress through homework, the importance of many types of play, and presentations to the San Carlos 2+2 committee regarding traffic safety.

4. Mobilize your people to “own” and accelerate the change.
   - Our volunteer ethic in San Carlos really shines in this arena. This month, for example, more than 100 students and families met for 3 separate days to construct “seed bombs” to support the new Arroyo school gardens. (See photos below.)

5. Embed the change in the fabric of the organization.
   - See all above! Sequoia Healthcare District newsletters, PTACC, school newsletters, parent workshops, and classroom PBL projects keep the entire community informed.
Tech Security/Privacy

We are piloting Securly—a cloud-based web filtering solution specifically designed for K-12 schools. Securly provides both in-school and take-home filtering, policy management and an comprehensive analytics. With features like safe-search in Google, YouTube and Wikipedia, and seamless integration with Google Apps for Education, Securly is an optimal security solution for 21st century education. Securly provides an alternative to the problem of over-blocking, while maintaining CIPA compliance. We’ll keep you posted.

We are reviewing all new contracts with a strong lens on data privacy and will be reviewing all existing contracts against this needed protection per new legal requirements.